Firing by Pakistani Troops

3400. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of firing by Pakistani troops on various points along the line of control are increasing;

(b) if so, whether due to these incidents of firing, the farmers are not able to carry out farming in these areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) Unprovoked firing by Pakistani troops across the Line of Control and International Border in Jammu and Kashmir is a recurring phenomenon. There has been no significant change in the firing incidents along the Line of Control. At times these incidents of firing do affect the normal life of people living in border areas, including farming activity. However, such disruptions are generally localised, and temporary.

[Translation]

Research Work on Vedic Mathematics

3401. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start research work on 'Vedic Mathematics' in universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the grants provided by the Government for research work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

World Bank Aid for Cataract Control

3402. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of World Bank aid received for the control of cataract during Eighth plan period;

(b) whether the major portion of this aid has not been utilised for the purpose for which it was given;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action the Government propose to take for complete utilisation of the World Bank aid for that purpose;

(d) the States where the above project is being implemented;

(e) whether the project has been implemented in Orissa also; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The Cataract Blindness Control Project at a total outlay of Rs. 554.36 crores is being impelemented with World Bank assistance over the period 1994 to 2001. The World Bank provides assistance on the basis of reimbursement and in this project about 89% of the total cost is reimbursable by the World Bank.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) World Bank Assisted Cataract Blindness Control Project is being implemented in 7 States namely Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) World Bank Assisted Cataract Blindness Control Project is being implemented in Orissa since April, 1994 and the details of funds released and cataract operations performed in Orissa are as under :

Year	Funds released by Govt. of India	No. of cataract operations performed (Rs. in lakhs)
1994-95	91.58	40536
1995-96	236.76	46835
1996-97	54.25	39980 (upto Jan., 1997)

[Translation]

Child Development Schemes in Bihar

3403. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of places where child development schemes are being run in Bihar by UNICEF and Union Government; and

(b) the places in Bihar particularly in Saharsa, Madhepura and Supaul districts where child development schemes are likely to be introduced?